

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COME-00 XMB-07 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 SCEM-02 INT-08 FPC-01 CIEP-02

CEA-02 RSR-01 /117 W

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R 070550Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHCC 5846

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BEXP, ETRN, JA, ID

SUBJ: PETROLEUM: INDONESIAN LNG PROJECTS

REF: A. STATE 154220

B. TOKYO 9749

1. SUMMARY. TRANSLATION OF JAPANESE PRESS ITEM DESCRIBING
INDONESIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTERS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO
JAPAN FOLLOWS: AS REQUESTED PARA 4, REF A. ARTICLE IS FROM
NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN OF JULY 27. DATELINED JAKARTA, IS
SPEAKS GENERALLY OF QTE INDONESIAN LNG DEVELOPMENT UNQTE,
AND INDICATES THAT NORTH SUMATRA FIELD AND SOUTH KALIMANTAN
FIELD WILL BE COMBINED TO FORM ONE PROJECT TO BE DEVELOPED
JOINTLY BY PERTAMINA, JAPAN, AND USA. END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN TEXT: INDONESIA LNG DEVELOPMENT TO START EVEN WITH-
OUT JAPAN. FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER COMING TO JAPAN TO DEMAND
DECISION. JAKARTA JULY 26. THE INDONESIAN GOVT, WHICH EX-
PECTS JAPAN'S ASSISTANCE IN ITS LNG DEVELOPMENT, WILL SEND
FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER RADIUS TO JAPAN SHORTLY IN ORDER TO
URGE GOJ TO MAKE A DECISION. THIS WILL BE THE THIRD TIME
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FOR THE MINISTER TO VISIT JAPAN ABOUT THE LNG PROBLEM. THE

INDONESIAN GOVT, WHICH HAS LEFT THE SYSTEM OF JAPAN'S PARTICIPATION TO JAPAN'S DECISION, HAS BEEN IRRITATED WITH JAPAN'S INABILITY TO MAKE A DECISION BECAUSE OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN TRADING FIRMS AND CONSUMERS CONCERNED. SOME PARTS OF THE INDONESIAN GOVT ARE SAID TO HAVE A STRONG VIEW OF PUSHING THE PROJECT WITHOUT JAPAN IF JAPAN CONTINUES TO DELAY ITS DECISION. PARAGRAPH. THE LNG DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS A JOINT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT BY THE US, JAPAN, AND INDONESIA WITH INDONESIAN STATE RUN PERTAMINA AS THE CORE, MAKING ONE PROJECT OF THE GAS FIELDS IN NORTH SUMATRA HELD BY (US) MOBIL AND THE GAS FIELDS IN SOUTH KALIMANTAN MINING CONCESSIONS TO WHICH ARE HELD BY (US) HUFFINGTON. JAPAN IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THIS PROJECT AS A DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL SUPPLIER AND THE BIGGEST USER. PARAGRAPH. THE PROJECT WAS FIRST INTRODUCED INFORMALLY TO JAPAN LAST YEAR AND WAS FORMALLY TAKEN UP BY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER RADIUS WHEN HE CAME TO JAPAN IN EARLY APRIL OF THIS YEAR AND REQUESTED CAPITAL COOPERATION. THEREAFTER, INDUSTRIAL BANK COUNSELOR SOHEI NAKAYAMA AND EXECUTIVES OF TRADING FIRMS HAVE SHOWN THEIR DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT WHEN THEY VISITED INDONESIA. PRESIDENT SUHARTO IS SAID TO HAVE EXPRESSED THAT IT WAS DESIRABLE TO DRAW A CONCLUSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END TEXT.

3. EMBASSY AT THIS TIME HAS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE POINTS RAISED PARA 3 REF A. PER PARA 4 REF A, EMBASSY DOES NOT PLAN RAISE ISSUE WITH GOJ OR JAPANESE INDUSTRY PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
SHOESMITH

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